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My name is Helen Keith and I am a teacher in Hartford, CT. I am writing today in support of Raised Bill 948, An Act Addressing Education Funding and Racial Equity in Connecticut. As a Connecticut public school educator, I have seen firsthand the impact that funding inequity has had on my students. I teach students whose first language is not English, and it is very frustrating to see the lack of resources available to them. TESOL and Bilingual teachers are stretched thin, and would benefit from additional support, especially in their native language. That's why I believe this bill must be passed. Funding inequities across and within our schools are preventing our students--particularly English Language Learners, students of color and children from low-income families--from getting the excellent education they deserve. Connecticut students have faced unprecedented hardship over the past year, and cannot wait multiple years to attend a fully-funded school.

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